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CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Editor

THE JAPANESE IN CALIFORNIA

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University of California

A study of Japanese birth statistics in California is revealing. In 1906 there were but 134 Japanese births registered in this State—little more than half of 1 per cent of the total births registered. Less than 1,000 Japanese births were registered annually until 1912 when 1,467 such events were recorded, representing 3.7 per cent of the total births registered throughout the State. The next 10 years brought sharp increases each year until 1922 when the climax was reached, with 5,275 registered Japanese births in California.

The Federal immigration restrictions became effective in July, 1924, and migration from Japan all but stopped. The numbers of Japanese births fell rapidly from that time as shown in the fact that 5,010 Japanese births were registered in 1923 and 4,016 were registered in 1925. Since that time the reduction has occurred consistently each year and in 1940 there were but 1,493 Japanese births registered in California—1.3 per cent of the total.

The United States census data show the Japanese population in California in 1940 was 93,717 as compared with a total population for the State of 6,907,387. The Japanese birth rate in 1940 was 15.9 per 1,000 population as compared with a birth rate of 16.1 per 1,000 for the total population of the State in 1940.

Californians in 1913 became considerably agitated over ownership of land in California by Japanese. "Picture brides" arrived by the shipload and young Japanese farmers came to the boats from their inland

farms, carrying away the brides that they had known before that time only by a picture acquaintance. There is every indication that this was a planned colonization sponsored by the Japanese Government. The agitation became so great that William Jennings Bryan, who was then Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson, came to Sacramento to personally as well as officially combat legislation that had been introduced to prevent the ownership of land in California by certain aliens. Bryan failed in his mission and the law was enacted.

In spite of this fact, the Japanese population increased rapidly and the birth rate rose each year until the Federal law restricted the migration of Japanese as well as other aliens to the United States. The storm of protests on the part of the Japanese Government that rose immediately after passage of this Federal law gave indication of the seriousness with which the Japanese regarded the situation. It seemed to have been more than the Oriental loss of face that was involved. A well-planned colonization in California was nipped in the bud. It would seem that the failure of the plan to take over this State through infiltration of its people and the breeding of a colony of Japanese who would own the State's valuable agricultural lands, was actually a leading factor in the production of the war in which we are now engaged.

The following table gives information relative to the total numbers of births in California, the birth rates, numbers of Japanese births and percentage of such births to the total number of registered births in California from 1906 to 1940, inclusively.

| Year | Total births | Birth rate | Japanese births | Per cent of total |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1906----- | 20,974 | 10.3 | 134 | 0.6 |
| 1907----- | 24,674 | 11.6 | 221 | 0.9 |
| 1908----- | 28,077 | 12.7 | 455 | 1.6 |
| 1909----- | 30,882 | 13.4 | 682 | 2.2 |
| 1910----- | 32,138 | 13.4 | 719 | 2.2 |
| 1911----- | 34,828 | 14.0 | 995 | 2.6 |
| 1912----- | 39,330 | 15.2 | 1,467 | 3.7 |
| 1913----- | 43,852 | 16.4 | 2,215 | 5.0 |
| 1914----- | 46,012 | 16.2 | 2,874 | 6.2 |
| 1915----- | 48,075 | 16.3 | 3,342 | 7.0 |
| 1916----- | 50,638 | 16.5 | 3,721 | 7.3 |
| 1917----- | 52,230 | 16.5 | 4,108 | 7.9 |
| 1918----- | 55,922 | 17.1 | 4,218 | 7.6 |
| 1919----- | 56,521 | 16.8 | 4,458 | 8.0 |
| 1920----- | 67,198 | 19.1 | 4,971 | 7.4 |
| 1921----- | 72,438 | 19.3 | 5,275 | 7.3 |
| 1922----- | 73,321 | 18.4 | 5,066 | 6.9 |
| 1923----- | 80,237 | 19.1 | 5,010 | 6.2 |
| 1924----- | 86,899 | 19.7 | 4,481 | 5.2 |
| 1925----- | 85,492 | 18.5 | 4,016 | 5.4 |
| 1926----- | 82,372 | 17.0 | 3,597 | 4.4 |
| 1927----- | 84,334 | 16.6 | 3,241 | 3.8 |
| 1928----- | 83,638 | 15.8 | 2,833 | 3.4 |
| 1929----- | 81,498 | 14.8 | 2,353 | 2.9 |
| 1930----- | 84,382 | 14.7 | 2,040 | 2.5 |
| 1931----- | 81,553 | 13.9 | 2,220 | 2.6 |
| 1932----- | 78,108 | 13.1 | 1,851 | 2.4 |
| 1933----- | 75,229 | 12.4 | 1,628 | 2.1 |
| 1934----- | 78,442 | 12.7 | 1,603 | 2.0 |
| 1935----- | 80,222 | 12.8 | 1,502 | 1.9 |
| 1936----- | 84,460 | 13.2 | 1,448 | 1.4 |
| 1937----- | 94,286 | 14.4 | 1,436 | 1.5 |
| 1938----- | 101,617 | 15.2 | 1,528 | 1.5 |
| 1939----- | 103,656 | 15.2 | 1,482 | 1.4 |
| 1940----- | 111,840 | 16.1 | 1,493 | 1.3 |

When the registration of births began in California in 1906, 98.4 per cent of all births registered were in the white race. The percentage of white births to the total decreased each year, reaching a low point in 1922 when but 77 per cent of the total number of births registered in this State were white. Since that time there has been a gradual increase each year in the proportion of the white births within the State, until in 1940 this percentage reached 83.8.

During recent years the migration of whites from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Texas and other South-Central States has affected the trend in the rising percentage of white births. This increase has been continued through the migration of young whites from other States who have obtained employment in aircraft and other war industries within the State, succeeding the agricultural laborers who had migrated during immediately preceding years.

It would seem at the present time that there can be no particular menace in the growth of a Japanese population within the State. The enforcement of the immigration laws, the aging of the colonizing

Japanese and the apparently lowered fecundity of the modern Japanese all have contributed to the reduced birth rates. There is considerable significance in the fact that the birth rate for the Japanese in 1940 was less than the birth rate for the total population of the State. The actual number of Japanese births that occurred in California in 1940 is almost identical with the number of such births that occurred in 1912. There can be no question regarding the reliability of the data for Japanese births in this State for the reason that the Japanese prize their citizenship in California because they realize that they must be able to prove their citizenship in order to acquire and hold real property in this State.

The following table gives the number of white births that occurred in California since 1926 and the percentage of such births to the total number registered:

| Year | Number of white births | Percentage of total |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1926----- | 64,840 | 78.7 |
| 1927----- | 66,073 | 78.3 |
| 1928----- | 64,343 | 76.9 |
| 1929----- | 62,716 | 77.0 |
| 1930----- | 65,075 | 77.1 |
| 1931----- | 64,009 | 78.5 |
| 1932----- | 62,241 | 79.7 |
| 1933----- | 60,222 | 80.1 |
| 1934----- | 62,959 | 80.3 |
| 1935----- | 64,508 | 80.4 |
| 1936----- | 68,249 | 80.8 |
| 1937----- | 77,576 | 82.3 |
| 1938----- | 83,864 | 82.6 |
| 1939----- | 85,857 | 82.8 |
| 1940----- | 93,742 | 83.8 |

Japanese Population in California

The United States Bureau of the Census reports that in 1940 California's Japanese population of 93,717 constituted 73.8 per cent of the total Japanese in the United States. Of these 33,569 were alien Japanese or 71.0 per cent of the total in the United States. Los Angeles in 1940 had 23,321 Japanese residents, more than any other American city. San Francisco had 5,280; Sacramento, 2,879; Oakland, 1,790; Stockton, 1,259; Berkeley, 1,319; San Diego, 828; Torrance, 1,189; Fresno, 797; Pasadena, 759; Alameda, 700; Long Beach, 696; Belvedere Township (in Los Angeles County), 605; Gardena, 509.

The Japanese population in 1940 was largely concentrated in counties containing or located near important industrial and shipping centers.

The following table covering the Japanese population in the State of California by sex and nativity or citizenship by counties in 1940 provides detailed information relative to the distribution of Japanese throughout the State.

**JAPANESE POPULATION IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA BY SEX AND NATIVITY OR CITIZENSHIP,
BY COUNTIES: 1940**

| County | All Japanese | | | Japanese born in the United States or its Territories and Possessions (Citizens) | | | Foreign-born Japanese (Aliens) | | | Total population |
|-----------------|--------------|--------|--------|--|--------|--------|--------------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------|
| | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | |
| The State | 93,717 | 52,550 | 41,167 | 60,148 | 31,932 | 28,216 | 33,569 | 20,618 | 12,951 | 6,907,387 |
| Alameda | 5,167 | 2,745 | 2,422 | 3,382 | 1,754 | 1,628 | 1,785 | 991 | 794 | 513,011 |
| Alpine | 2 | 2 | | 2 | 2 | | | | | 323 |
| Amador | 216 | 127 | 89 | 143 | 83 | 60 | 73 | 44 | 29 | 8,973 |
| Butte | 6 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 1 | | | | 42,840 |
| Calaveras | 155 | 89 | 66 | 103 | 58 | 45 | 52 | 31 | 21 | 8,221 |
| Colusa | 829 | 479 | 350 | 518 | 277 | 241 | 311 | 202 | 109 | 9,788 |
| Contra Costa | | | | | | | | | | 100,450 |
| Del Norte | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4,745 |
| El Dorado | 4,527 | 2,442 | 2,085 | 3,019 | 1,574 | 1,445 | 1,508 | 868 | 640 | 13,229 |
| Fresno | | | | | | | | | | 178,565 |
| Glenn | | | | | | | | | | 12,195 |
| Humboldt | 1,583 | 878 | 705 | 994 | 513 | 481 | 589 | 365 | 224 | 45,812 |
| Imperial | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | 59,740 |
| Inyo | 756 | 493 | 263 | 397 | 217 | 180 | 359 | 276 | 83 | 7,625 |
| Kern | 508 | 275 | 233 | 323 | 158 | 165 | 185 | 117 | 68 | 135,124 |
| Kings | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | 35,168 |
| Lake | | | | | | | | | | 8,069 |
| Lassen | | | | | | | | | | 14,479 |
| Los Angeles | 36,866 | 20,653 | 16,213 | 23,475 | 12,470 | 11,005 | 13,391 | 8,183 | 5,208 | 2,785,643 |
| Madera | 170 | 83 | 87 | 118 | 57 | 61 | 52 | 26 | 26 | 23,314 |
| Marin | 150 | 100 | 50 | 68 | 39 | 29 | 82 | 61 | 21 | 52,907 |
| Mariposa | | | | | | | | | | 5,605 |
| Mendocino | 53 | 38 | 15 | 21 | 15 | 6 | 32 | 23 | 9 | 27,864 |
| Merced | 715 | 396 | 319 | 481 | 271 | 210 | 234 | 125 | 109 | 46,988 |
| Modoc | 4 | 3 | 1 | | | | 4 | 3 | 1 | 8,713 |
| Mono | | | | | | | | | | 2,299 |
| Monterey | 2,247 | 1,300 | 947 | 1,530 | 856 | 674 | 717 | 444 | 273 | 73,032 |
| Napa | 54 | 33 | 21 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 34 | 23 | 11 | 28,503 |
| Nevada | | | | | | | | | | 19,283 |
| Orange | 1,855 | 1,125 | 730 | 1,178 | 670 | 508 | 677 | 455 | 222 | 130,760 |
| Placer | 1,637 | 923 | 714 | 1,147 | 643 | 504 | 490 | 280 | 210 | 28,108 |
| Plumas | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 1 | | 11,548 |
| Riverside | 552 | 296 | 256 | 369 | 191 | 178 | 183 | 105 | 78 | 105,524 |
| Sacramento | 6,764 | 3,685 | 3,079 | 4,489 | 2,346 | 2,143 | 2,275 | 1,339 | 936 | 170,333 |
| San Benito | 526 | 286 | 240 | 381 | 205 | 176 | 145 | 81 | 64 | 11,392 |
| San Bernardino | 346 | 203 | 143 | 211 | 115 | 96 | 135 | 88 | 47 | 161,108 |
| San Diego | 2,076 | 1,220 | 856 | 1,283 | 672 | 611 | 793 | 548 | 245 | 289,348 |
| San Francisco | 5,280 | 2,850 | 2,430 | 3,004 | 1,468 | 1,536 | 2,276 | 1,382 | 894 | 634,536 |
| San Joaquin | 4,484 | 2,659 | 1,825 | 2,759 | 1,479 | 1,280 | 1,725 | 1,180 | 545 | 134,207 |
| San Luis Obispo | 925 | 518 | 407 | 639 | 339 | 300 | 286 | 179 | 107 | 33,246 |
| San Mateo | 1,218 | 677 | 541 | 800 | 424 | 376 | 418 | 253 | 165 | 111,782 |
| Santa Barbara | 2,187 | 1,258 | 929 | 1,419 | 783 | 636 | 768 | 475 | 293 | 70,555 |
| Santa Clara | 4,049 | 2,124 | 1,925 | 2,829 | 1,439 | 1,390 | 1,220 | 685 | 535 | 174,949 |
| Santa Cruz | 1,301 | 712 | 589 | 931 | 503 | 428 | 370 | 209 | 161 | 45,057 |
| Shasta | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | 28,800 |
| Sierra | | | | | | | | | | 3,025 |
| Siskiyou | 7 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 28,598 |
| Solano | 906 | 536 | 370 | 518 | 284 | 234 | 388 | 252 | 136 | 49,118 |
| Sonoma | 758 | 420 | 338 | 549 | 302 | 247 | 209 | 118 | 91 | 69,052 |
| Stanislaus | 369 | 234 | 135 | 231 | 141 | 90 | 138 | 93 | 45 | 74,866 |
| Sutter | 423 | 246 | 177 | 274 | 154 | 120 | 149 | 92 | 57 | 18,680 |
| Tehama | 38 | 22 | 16 | 27 | 15 | 12 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 14,316 |
| Trinity | | | | | | | | | | 3,970 |
| Tulare | 1,812 | 1,126 | 686 | 1,101 | 638 | 463 | 711 | 488 | 223 | 107,152 |
| Tuolumne | | | | | | | | | | 10,887 |
| Ventura | 672 | 399 | 273 | 421 | 226 | 195 | 251 | 173 | 78 | 69,685 |
| Yolo | 1,087 | 637 | 450 | 699 | 388 | 311 | 388 | 249 | 139 | 27,243 |
| Yuba | 429 | 243 | 186 | 283 | 144 | 139 | 146 | 99 | 47 | 17,034 |

SANITATION OF FLOODED WELLS

In view of the extensive recurrence of widespread flooding of wells by storm water, the following advice is given. With respect to wells which are merely flooded by dirty water or the overflow from fields and pastures, the history of experience indicates no serious danger to health. The common sense thing to do is to pump out such wells, after the flood waters recede until the well water becomes reasonably and sufficiently clear to use.

With respect to other wells which were in the path of flood water which may have picked up pollution from privies and other human excreta, the following additional precautions are offered:

1. Permeate the well with chloride of lime dropped into the well so that it will settle through the water from top to bottom. Use approximately

eight ounces per hundred feet of depth of water column. This figure is approximate only and is sufficient only for wells under 12 or 14 inches in diameter,

Or

2. If chloride of lime is not available (it is scarce nowadays), then procure powdered hydrated lime and likewise drop it into the well so that it will settle from top to bottom. Use approximately two pounds per 100 feet of water column.

3. In either case, let the well stand at least 24 hours.

4. Then pump out the water until it becomes clear and is reasonably free of taste of the chloride of lime or hardness of the lime, depending on which is used. The water is then practically safe. It may be necessary to pump out the equivalent of five or 10 times the content of the well.

Bacterial analysis is practically useless in these cases for the reason that flood waters contain so much harmless bacteria from fields and pasture lands that the test does not reveal the sewage hazard.

"We know today that our world, yours and ours, depends at this moment upon the way in which the Englishmen behave and know how to die. We are proud of our kinsmen. We are proud that just as your nation, in the days of your agony, produced a Lincoln, so our British nations in the days of our trial have gained a Churchill. I see in him the personification of sublimity. 'Sublimity is the echo of a great soul.' How often across the Atlantic have we heard the echo of that great soul.

"We are proud to think, too, of the jaunty little Cockney, the man, I suppose, who hitherto has received less from our Anglo-Saxon civilization than anybody, but who, today, is making the soul immortal in thousands of little battered streets."

—Leonard W. Brockington (Canada)

MORBIDITY*

Complete Reports for Certain Diseases Recorded for Week Ending January 24, 1942

Chickenpox

1109 cases from the following counties: Alameda 163, Butte 9, Calaveras 5, Contra Costa 45, Fresno 58, Imperial 2, Kern 31, Kings 2, Los Angeles 403, Madera 3, Marin 2, Mendocino 1, Merced 8, Monterey 12, Orange 14, Riverside 36, Sacramento 13, San Bernardino 7, San Diego 81, San Francisco 40, San Joaquin 3, San Luis Obispo 12, San Mateo 15, Santa Barbara 60, Santa Clara 46, Santa Cruz 4, Stanislaus 10, Sutter 3, Tehama 3, Tulare 7, Ventura 8, Yolo 3.

German Measles

202 cases from the following counties: Alameda 23, Contra Costa 3, Fresno 11, Kern 8, Los Angeles 27, Mendocino 20, Merced 6, Monterey 7, Orange 5, Riverside 8, Sacramento 2, San Bernardino 1, San Diego 36, San Francisco 22, San Joaquin 1, San Luis Obispo 3, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara 5, Santa Cruz 1, Stanislaus 3, Tulare 1, Yolo 8.

Measles

2081 cases from the following counties: Alameda 97, Butte 7, Calaveras 9, Contra Costa 23, Del Norte 10, El Dorado 2, Fresno 293, Humboldt 31, Imperial 2, Kern 87, Kings 26, Los Angeles 139, Madera 18, Merced 4, Monterey 40, Napa 1, Orange 4, Riverside 9, Sacramento 166, San Bernardino 30, San Diego 123, San Francisco 40, San Joaquin 276, San Luis Obispo 8, Santa Barbara 94, Santa Clara 11, Santa Cruz 3, Solano 10, Stanislaus 244, Sutter 59, Trinity 1, Tulare 25, Tuolumne 19, Ventura 59, Yolo 58, Yuba 53.

Mumps

1370 cases from the following counties: Alameda 106, Butte 3, Colusa 20, Contra Costa 61, Del Norte 2, Fresno 37, Humboldt 3, Imperial 18, Kern 55, Kings 2, Los Angeles 303, Madera 9, Marin 7, Merced 2, Monterey 44, Orange 103, Placer 1, Riverside 10, Sacramento 87, San Bernardino 12, San Diego 88, San Francisco 158, San Joaquin 61, San Luis Obispo 20, San Mateo 14, Santa Barbara 15, Santa Clara 50, Santa Cruz 27, Solano 9, Stanislaus 10, Sutter 10, Tulare 6, Ventura 14, Yolo 2, Yuba 1.

Scarlet Fever

135 cases from the following counties: Alameda 3, Fresno 7, Imperial 3, Kern 6, Los Angeles 71, Marin 4, Monterey 1, Orange 2, Riverside 2, Sacramento 4, San Bernardino 4, San Diego 10, San Francisco 13, San Luis Obispo 1, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Clara 2.

* Data regarding the other reportable diseases not listed herein, may be obtained upon request.

Whooping Cough

268 cases from the following counties: Alameda 10, Butte 12, Contra Costa 12, Fresno 31, Imperial 1, Kern 11, Los Angeles 33, Madera 3, Monterey 1, Orange 2, Riverside 2, Sacramento 21, San Bernardino 2, San Diego 4, San Francisco 5, San Joaquin 32, San Luis Obispo 16, San Mateo 1, Santa Barbara 19, Santa Clara 28, Santa Cruz 1, Shasta 2, Solano 5, Stanislaus 2, Sutter 1, Tulare 1, Ventura 4, Yuba 1.

Coccidioidal Granuloma

One case from Los Angeles County.

Diarrhea of Newborn (Epidemic)

5 cases from Los Angeles County.

Diphtheria

18 cases from the following counties: Alameda 1, Calaveras 1, Imperial 1, Los Angeles 10, Riverside 3, San Bernardino 1, San Diego 1.

Dysentery (Bacillary)

3 cases from the following counties: Fresno 2, Los Angeles 1.

Encephalitis (Epidemic)

One case from Glenn County.

Epilepsy

36 cases from the following counties: Alameda 2, Contra Costa 1, Fresno 1, Los Angeles 25, San Bernardino 1, San Francisco 3, San Mateo 1, Stanislaus 1, Sutter 1.

Food Poisoning

13 cases from Los Angeles County.

Influenza

119 cases reported in the State.

Jaundice (Epidemic)

3 cases from Los Angeles County.

Malaria

One case from San Francisco.

Meningitis (Epidemic)

7 cases from the following counties: Alameda 2, Los Angeles 5.

Poliomyelitis

One case from Fresno County.

Rabies (Animal)

15 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 8, San Diego 7.

Rheumatic Fever

7 cases from the following counties: Alameda 1, Los Angeles 2, Madera 1, Sacramento 1, San Diego 1, Yuba County 1.

Tetanus

One case from Los Angeles County.

Trichinosis

One case from Alameda County.

Typhoid Fever

3 cases from the following counties: Fresno 1, Los Angeles 1, Santa Clara 1.

Undulant Fever

5 cases from the following counties: Imperial 2, Los Angeles 2, Orange 1.

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